

REMARKS

A Final Office Action issued on November 18, 2008. The following remarks are submitted in response thereto.

Claims 1, 16, and 32-35 have been canceled. Amended claims 2-15, 17-31, 36 and 37 are in this application.

Claims 2-15, 17-31, 36 and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tokyo Shibaura Electric Co. et al. (9-179549) and Walden (U.S. Patent No. 4,081,850).

Independent claim 36 has been amended herein, and claim 37 has been amended herein so as to depend from claim 36. All other remaining claims depend either directly or indirectly from amended independent claim 36.

Amended independent claim 36 now recites in part the following:

"a manipulating unit configured to be arranged on a plane perpendicular to a longitudinal direction of said housing case at one end side;

a strap attaching unit configured to be arranged at the one end side;

a jack configured to be arranged at the one end side, said jack having an opening arranged to receive a plug inserted from a direction of the one end side;" (Emphasis added.)

Accordingly, the device of claim 36 includes a manipulating unit, a strap attaching unit, and a jack which may be all arranged at one end side. Additionally, the jack may have an opening arranged to receive a plug inserted from the direction of the one end side.

It is respectfully submitted that the combination of Tokyo Shibaura Electric and Walden applied by the Examiner does not appear to disclose all of the above-identified features now recited in claim 36. As an example, in explaining the above 103 rejection with regard to claim 2, the Examiner appears to assert that lines 35-50 of column 1 and lines 9-14 of column 3 of Walden disclose the jack of claim 36. (See, lines 2-7 of page 4 of the present Office Action.) In response, it is respectfully submitted that such portions of Walden do not appear to disclose a jack as specifically recited in claim 36. In fact, such portions of Walden do not appear to disclose any type of jack.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that amended independent claim 36 is distinguishable from the combination of Tokyo Shibaura Electric and Walden applied by the Examiner.

Claims 2-15, 17-31, and 37 are dependent from independent claim 36. As such, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-15, 17-31 and 37 are distinguishable from the combination of Tokyo Shibaura Electric and Walden applied by the Examiner for at least the reasons previously described.

As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Official Action have been overcome, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone applicants' attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional rejections and/or objections which the Examiner might have.

Application No.: 09/868,029

Docket No.: SONYJP 3.3-734

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: February 18, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Dennis M. Smid, Esq.

Registration No.: 34,930

LERNER, DAVID, LITTENBERG,

KRUMHOLZ & MENTLIK, LLP

600 South Avenue West

Westfield, New Jersey 07090

(908) 654-5000

Attorney for Applicants

980257_1.DOC